

ST. JOHN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher: *Miss D Maudsley*
Chair of Governors: *Cllr J Hanson*

FOUNTAINS ROAD

KIRKDALE

L4 1UN

Tel: 0151-922-1924/3106

Fax: 0151-933-0915

Email: ao@stjohnsprimaryschool.com

Website: www.stjohnskirkdale.co.uk

14th July 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope you and your loved ones are safe and well. We have missed having our whole school community together and we are very much looking forward to seeing you all in the new academic year.

You have been very understanding of the fact that these have been unprecedented times and extremely difficult circumstances for everyone, pupils, parents/carers, as well as staff themselves.

I wanted to take the opportunity to explain a few practical details which will help to ensure a smooth transition back to school life for your child and how it may look under our new and unique circumstances. Please go through these points with your children to make sure that they know what to expect.

- From September, the children will remain, as much as possible, throughout the day, within their own year group, or 'bubble' as they are now referred to. They will be taught within their classes or teaching groups, and at lunchtimes and break times, they will remain within their own particular year groups only. Obviously, to restrict interactions, year groups will also have separate playtimes and staggered lunchtimes.
- The children, just as they have been doing this summer term, will come into school (at their specific drop off time) through the Sessions Road entrance. In addition, I have now opened the wide double gates on to the playground each day where parents and children can access. This has worked out very well so far. Children will not line up on the playground as they usually do, but will be directed to enter the building in a staggered order. Staff will be positioned at key points on the gates and playground to assist the children.
- We have also tried to enable staggered drop off and collection times to avoid any queuing and enable everyone to social distance. Obviously, flexibility and understanding will be required around these suggested staggered times but so far, this has worked really well and the parents who are now used to this new system have worked with all of us to ensure that this has worked very successfully. Times/ entrance and exit points for each year group are listed as follows:

NB ALL PUPILS ENTER EACH MORNING THROUGH MAIN PLAYGROUND GATES SESSIONS ROAD

AT:

Y6	8.40am	<u>Exit</u> Reception side entrance at front of school	3.15pm
Y 5	8.45am	<u>Exit</u> MAIN PLAYGROUND GATES Sessions Road	3.10pm
Y4	8.50am	<u>Exit</u> Main Playground Gates Session Road	3.15pm
Y3	8.55am	<u>Exit</u> Main Playground <u>Small Gate</u> Sessions Road	3.15pm
Year 1	8.50am	<u>Exit</u> Main Playground Gates	3pm
Year 2	8.45am	<u>Exit</u> Main Playground Gates	3.10pm

- You will bring your child to the main wide school gates on the playground for drop off at that point and from there, staff will be positioned to safely guide the children directly into school. I would also ask that parents avoid gathering at or around the school gates. All teachers will be ready for your children at their new start time. Please try to stick to these times as closely as possible. Please also be patient as we are trying to stagger year groups for pick up/ drop offs and this may take a little longer than usual, particularly at the end of the day.
- For parents who are dropping off more than one child, rather than stand around waiting in the morning, all of your children will be allowed to come into school with the earliest drop off of the first child as all teachers will be in waiting to receive the children.
- Children should bring their own individual water bottle which will also go home with them every day to be cleaned and ready for the next day.
- Please do not allow your child to bring in anything other than the essentials they need. Only a water bottle, coat and packed lunch (if they are not having a school meal).
- There are additional hand sanitising stations and additional hand washing facilities at designated points throughout the school which we encourage the children to use.
- All children will be required to wear school uniform from the beginning of term. I have attached a reminder of school uniform. Please note that earrings WILL NOT be allowed for Health and Safety reasons.
- We have been working extremely hard in the background on our home learning resources and we will continue to update these and upload them to our website. I would encourage you to use them, no matter what you decide for your child, and we will also be focusing on wellbeing, transition and mental health activities.
- A reminder that up until September, parents have been allowed to choose to send their child into school but this will change from September. However, the government have been clear that school attendance will be compulsory from September and that fines for non school attendance will resume again from then.

- Breakfast Club and Extra curricular Clubs will start from Monday September 7th.
- Visits and visitors to school are obviously restricted and for essential purposes only. If you do have an urgent enquiry, please ring the school and we will try to deal with it as quickly as possible. Please do not go to the office with PE bags, lunch bags or money.
- Road Safety – Please walk to school where possible to avoid traffic congestion and ensure the safety of children around the school gates.

We have followed the new arrangements very successfully so far for the past term as we re introduced year groups back to school. I cannot praise the parents and carers enough for their full support, understanding and co operation throughout this time. You have all made this so much smoother for your children, as well as staff here at the school.

Again, I would point out that these are very exceptional circumstances which will require flexibility, patience and understanding on the part of both parents and school. As always, I am extremely grateful to you for your continued support and myself and all of the staff of St John's look forward to seeing you again in September.

Yours sincerely

Miss Maudsley
Headteacher

